

Message Text

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TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY) PL
SUBJ: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: SUGGESTED TOAST FOR THE STATE DINNER

THERE FOLLOWS A DRAFT WHICH YOU MAY WISH TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION
IN PREPARING THE TOAST THE PRESIDENT WILL MAKE AT THE STATE DINNER
ON DECEMBER 30.
BEGIN TEXT.

MR. FIRST SECRETARY, DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF THE POLISH
GOVERNMENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

NOT LONG AFTER THE ELECTION OF AN AMERICAN PRESIDENT, A POLE
PROMINENT IN AMERICAN AFFAIRS WROTE TO HIM: "AT LAST, VIRTUE HAS
TRIUMPHED...A PEOPLE OF GOOD HABITS AND GOOD SENSE SEES THAT IT WAS
NECESSARY TO ELECT YOU IF IT IS TO BE HAPPY AND INDEPENDENT. AND IT IS

NOT MISTAKEN. I ADD MY BEST WISHES TO THOSE OF EVERYONE ELSE."

WELL, JUST TO DISPEL THE MYSTERY, MR. FIRST SECRETARY, THAT IS NOT
A QUOTATION FROM A LETTER OF DR. BRZEZINSKI TO ME. IT IS A QUOTATION
FROM A LETTER WRITTEN BY THADDEUS KOSCIUSZKO TO THOMAS JEFFERSON
IN 1800.

AND GENERAL KOSCIUSZKO WENT ON TO SAY: "REMEMBER THAT THE FIRST
OFFICE OF THE STATE, WHICH IS ALWAYS SURROUNDED BY SYCOPHANTS,
INTRIGUERS, HYPROCRITES, AND ILL-DISPOSED PERSONS, SHOULD BE SUR-
ROUNDED BY PEOPLE OF CHARACTER, REAL ABILITY, AND STRICT PROBITY."

KOSCIUSZKO'S ADVICE WAS GOOD FOR JEFFERSON AND IT IS GOOD FOR YOU
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AND ME, MR. FIRST SECRETARY. AS YOU SEE, I HAVE TAKEN IT SERIOUSLY
AND HAVE APPOINTED PEOPLE OF CHARACTER, REAL ABILITY, AND STRICT
PROBITY TO SURROUND ME, AND I HAVE BROUGHT SOME OF THEM WITH ME
TONIGHT.

IN THE UNITED STATES, THE WARMTH OF POLISH HOSPITALITY IS WELL
KNOWN. TONIGHT'S DINNER, AND THE RECEPTION GIVEN US THROUGHOUT OUR
DAY IN WARSAW, HAVE SHOWN US WHY. THE PEOPLE OF POLAND, AND THEIR

LEADERS, INDEED HAVE A SPECIAL TALENT FOR MAKING VISITORS FEEL AT HOME. WE ALL ARE DEEPLY GRATEFUL FOR THE FRIENDLINESS SHOWN US EVERYWHERE WE HAVE BEEN TODAY.

AND SO IT IS, MR. FIRST SECRETARY, THAT ALTHOUGH THIS IS MY FIRST VISIT TO POLAND, I DO NOT FEEL A STRANGER. THE WARMTH OF YOUR WELCOME, AS WELL AS THE LONG TRADITION OF POLISH-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP, HAVE SEEN TO THAT. IN FACT, THE BONDS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES STRETCH BACK TO THE VERY FOUNDING OF THE UNITED STATES, WHEN THOSE GALLANT POLISH HEROES, KOSCIUSZKO AND PULASKI, DEVOTED THEIR IDEALS AND TALENTS--AND PULASKI, HIS LIFE--TO THE SUCCESSFUL FIGHT FOR AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE. IN THE TWO CENTURIES SINCE THEN, THE INSPIRATION--AND PERSPIRATION--OF POLISH IMMIGRANTS HAVE MADE AN INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE SETTLEMENT, INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH OF THE NEW LAND. TODAY, THE POLISH-AMERICAN COMMUNITY PLAYS A VIBRANTLY ACTIVE ROLE IN AMERICAN LIFE AND AT THE SAME TIME KEEPS UP AN ESPECIALLY CLOSE CONNECTION WITH THE HERITAGE OF THE MOTHER COUNTRY.

THAT HERITAGE IS A RICH ONE. OUT OF POLAND'S LONG CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC TRADITION HAVE COME MUSICIANS SUCH AS CHOPIN AND PADEREWSKI, WRITERS OF THE CALIBER OF MICKIEWICZ AND CONRAD, AND THE SCIENTIFIC GENIUS OF COPERNICUS AND MADAME CURIE-SKLODOWSKA. THE WORLD ADMIRES A NATION WHICH HAS PRODUCED SO MANY DISTINGUISHED SONS AND DAUGHTERS, DESPITE A HISTORY ALL TOO FULL OF TRAGEDY AND ADVERSITY.

ONE OF THE WORST OF THESE ADVERSITIES WAS THE SECOND WORLD WAR. AND YET, EMERGING FROM SUFFERING AND DEVASTATION WE NOW CAN HARDLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IMAGINE, THE POLISH PEOPLE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED ONE OF THE GREATEST FEATS IN THEIR THOUSAND-YEAR ANNALS: THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THEIR COUNTRY AND, ABOVE ALL, THEIR CAPITAL CITY. WHEN WE SEE WARSAW TODAY--

AND ARE REMINDED OF WHAT WARSAW WAS IN 1945--WE CANNOT BUT WONDER AT THE IMMENSE STRENGTH OF PURPOSE SHOWN BY THE PEOPLE OF POLAND, WHO, AT GREAT SACRIFICE, HAVE LOVINGLY AND PAINSTAKINGLY RESTORED THEIR CAPITAL AND MADE IT, ONCE AGAIN, ONE OF THE GREAT CITIES OF EUROPE. WARSAW THUS IS THE MOST VIVID SYMBOL OF A POLAND REBORN.

THE CITY, HOWEVER, IS ALSO A WARNING AND A REMINDER. IT IS A WARNING OF THE TERRIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF MODERN TOTAL WAR, SINCE 1945 RENDERED, THROUGH NUCLEAR WEAPONS, MORE DEVASTATING BY AN ENTIRE NEW DIMENSION. IT IS A REMINDER THAT, UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, THERE IS NO REAL ALTERNATIVE TO PURSUING A POLICY OF PEACE AMONG NATIONS. I THINK BOTH POLAND AND THE UNITED STATES ARE PAYING HEED TO THAT REMINDER. WE DO NOT SEE ALL INTERNATIONAL ISSUES THROUGH THE SAME EYES AND WE ARE MEMBERS OF OPPOSING MILITARY ALLIANCES, BUT I BELIEVE WE DO SHARE THE CONVICTION THAT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN NATIONS MUST BE SOLVED WITHOUT RESORTING TO FORCE. THIS BASIC UNDERSTANDING, MR. FIRST SECRETARY, ENABLED US TO REGISTER SUBSTANTIAL AREAS OF AGREEMENT IN OUR TALKS TODAY ON INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS. WHERE WE DISAGREED--FOR EXAMPLE, OVER SOME QUESTIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS, ON

WHICH, AS YOU KNOW, THE UNITED STATES PLACES THE GREATEST EMPHASIS--
THOSE DIFFERENCES WERE STILL IN THE CONTEXT OF A FUNDAMENTAL,
OVERRIDING, COMMON INTEREST IN PRESERVING PEACE. ACCORDINLY, WE BOTH
SHARE THE HOPE FOR AN EARLY SALT II AGREEMENT AND FOR A JUST AND
LASTING SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST. WE BOTH WISH TO SEE A
CONTINUATION OF THE PROCESS OF STRENGTHENING SECURITY AND
COOPERATION IN EUROPE THAT WE ENDORSED IN SIGNING THE FINAL
ACT AT HELSINKI. WE BOTH HOPE FOR PROGRESS IN THE TALKS ON MUTUAL AND
BALANCED REDUCTION OF MILITARY FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE. AND
WE ARE BOTH CONVINCED OF THE NECESSITY OF SLOWING DOWN AND THEN
STOPPING
THE BUILD-UP OF ARMAMENTS AROUND THE WORLD, WHICH IS DIVERTING
SO MANY RESOURCES FROM CONSTRUCTIVE DEVELOPMENT. MOST IMPORTANTLY,
WE AGREE ON THE NECESSITY OF PREVENTING ANY FURTHER SPREAD OF
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NUCLEAR WEAPONS. SOLUTION OF ANY OF THESE PROBLEMS WOULD MAKE THE
WORLD A SIGNIFICANTLY SAFER PLACE. SOLUTION OF THEM ALL WOULD
GO A LONG WAY TOWARD MAKING OUR WORLD A TRULY PEACEFUL ONE.
THEREFORE, OUR OWN EFFORTS, TOGETHER WITH THOSE OF
OTHER COUNTRIES, TO SOLVE THESE PROBLEMS ARE AN INTER-
NATIONAL NECESSITY.

WE ALSO WERE GRATIFIED TODAY, MR. FIRST SECRETARY,
OVER THE PROGRESS WE ACHIEVED IN OUR DISCUSSION OF
BILATERAL ISSUES. TRUE, WORK REMAINS TO BE DONE ON A
NUMBER OF IMPORTANT PROBLEMS, ECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC AND
TECHNICAL, AND HUMANITARIAN. BUT I THINK OUR TALKS
HAVE CONTRIBUTED CONCRETELY TO STRENGTHENING THE TREND
OF THE PAST SEVEN YEARS, WHICH HAVE SEEN SIGNIFICANT
INCREASES IN THE EXCHANGE OF GOODS, PEOPLE, AND IDEAS
BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND POLAND. LET ME ASSURE YOU
SPECIFICALLY OF MY COUNTRY'S GOOD WILL AS WE CONTINUE
SEEKING TO FIND WAYS TO ASSIST THE POLISH ECONOMY,
CONSISTENT WITH OUR OWN LAWS AND THE INTERESTS OF THE
AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE.

IT IS THIS SPIRIT OF GOOD WILL, MR. FIRST
SECRETARY, THAT WE HAVE COME TO POLAND AS THE FIRST
STOP ON OUR JOURNEY HALF WAY AROUND THE WORLD.
POLAND OCCUPIES A SPECIAL PLACE IN THE AFFECTIONS OF
THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, AND IT ON THEIR BEHALF THAT I
NOW RAISE THIS TOAST: TO THE PEOPLE OF POLAND--MAY
THEY PROSPER IN THE COMING YEAR AND BEYOND. TO POLISH-
AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP--MAY IT FLOURISH EVEN MORE FULLY AS
A RESULT OF THIS VISIT. TO PEACE AMONG ALL NATIONS--
MAY OUR EXAMPLE HELP BRING IT SOON. END TEXT.
DAVIES

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